County of Los Angeles
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

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DAVID SANDERS, PH.D.
Director

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February 4, 2005

To: Supervisor Gloria Molina, Chair
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, Chair Pro Tem
Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe

From: David Sanders, Ph.D
Director

RE: SUPPORTING DOCUMENT FOR FEBRUARY 8, 2005 BOARD AGENDA ITEM 61 – DCFS ORAL REPORT RE: THE POTENTIAL RECONSTITUTION OF THE REFUGIO PARA NINOS (REFUGIO) FOSTER FAMILY AGENCY (FFA) TO ENSURE FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY, AS REQUESTED BY THE BOARD AT THE MEETING OF JANUARY 25, 2005.

In collaboration with County Counsel and the Auditor-Controller's Office, the Department of Children and Family Services has taken the following actions regarding Refugio Para Ninos FFA since the January 25, 2005 Board Meeting.

January 27, 2005 - DCFS sent the FFA Contract Termination Notification to Refugio Para Ninos Board of Directors with a termination effective date of April 27, 2005.

January 28, 2005 - DCFS sent a letter to Refugio Para Ninos Certified Foster Homes indicating at this time DCFS has no plans to remove children from their homes unless safety issues arise or case planning warrants it.

February 1, 2005 - DCFS sent a letter to Refugio Para Ninos Board of Directors and James Corn, Refugio's legal representative, outlining the 'non-negotiable requirements of a Global Settlement' that must be agreed to by Refugio.

February 2, 2005 - On behalf of the County, DCFS and County Counsel met with Refugio's Board/James Corn/Refugio's Interim Operations Management to address Refugio's questions regarding the "Global Settlement" letter. Refugio's Board of Directors will have until February 4, 2005, 5:00 P.M., to respond to the County as to the acceptance/rejection of the non-negotiable requirements.

My oral report to you on February 8, 2005 will include my recommendations resulting from Refugio Para Ninos Board of the Directors's response to the Global Settlement letter.

DS:WC

Confidential Attachments

c: Chief Administrative Officer (Cover memo only)
County Counsel
Auditor-Controller's Office (Cover memo only)
Board Executive Officer (Cover memo only)